

## Message Text

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SUBJECT: US-USSR SPACE COOPERATION: SPACE METEOROLOGY  
(SATELLITES) (04.02.00)

FOR SCICOUN

1. PLEASE PASS FOLLOWING MESSAGE FROM DAVID S. JOHNSON,  
US CO-CHAIRMAN, SATELLITE SECTION OF THE US-USSR WORKING  
GROUP ON SPACE METEOROLOGY, TO HIS SOVIET COUNTERPART,  
DR. L.A. ALEKSANDROV, HYDROMET SERVICE.

2. SEPTEMBER 5, 1978 (04.02.00)

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DR. L.A. ALEKSANDROV  
HYDROMETEOROLOGICAL SERVICE OF  
THE USSR  
12, PAVLIK MOROZOV STREET  
MOSCOW, D-376, USSR

DEAR DR. ALEKSANDROV:

WE HAVE NOW COMPLETED OUR ASSESSMENT OF YOUR 1976 AIRCRAFT MICROWAVE OBSERVATION AND SUPPORTING DATA. THE BASIC PROBLEM FOR US IS THAT YOUR MICROWAVE DATA ARE

COMPARED WITH SYNOPTIC WEATHER MAP DATA RATHER THAN SIMULTANEOUS NEAR-SURFACE WIND OBSERVATIONS DETERMINED FROM THE AIRCRAFT, E.G., BY MEANS OF AN INERTIAL NAVIGATION SYSTEM. IN OUR OWN COMPARISONS, WE FIND THAT WE NEED SUCH SIMULTANEOUS DATA. WE ARE THEREFORE NOT PLANNING ANY FURTHER ANALYSIS OF YOUR 1976 DATA.

WITH REGARD TO OUR OWN 1976 AIRCRAFT MICROWAVE OBSERVATION DATA, WE HAVE CONCLUDED THAT FURTHER IMPROVEMENTS WOULD BE REQUIRED TO MAKE THE DATA SET USEFUL FOR COMPARISON WITH SEA SURFACE WINDS AND TEMPERATURE. HOWEVER, WE DO NOT PLAN ANY FURTHER ANALYSIS OF THE 1976 DATA BECAUSE IT DOES NOT CONTAIN SUFFICIENTLY HIGH WIND CONDITIONS AND BECAUSE THE LONG WAVELENGTH CHANNELS (6 CM HORIZONTAL AND VERTICAL) DO NOT CORRESPOND TO THE WAVELENGTH ONBOARD SEASAT A AND NIMBUS G (4.6 CM HORIZONTAL AND VERTICAL). WE ARE PROCEEDING WITH THE ANALYSIS OF THE 1977 DATA BECAUSE IT DOES NOT CONTAIN THE DEFICIENCIES MENTIONED ABOVE.

CONCERNING FUTURE JOINT ACTIVITIES, WE HAVE CONCLUDED THAT UNCLASSIFIED

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FURTHER DATA EXCHANGE DOES NOT APPEAR WARRANTED AT THIS TIME SINCE OUR RADIOMETRIC SURFACE DATA COMPARISON PHILOSOPHIES DIFFER SO GREATLY. AS INDICATED ABOVE, WE PREFER COMPARISON WITH SURFACE DATA OBTAINED ONBOARD THE AIRCRAFT. NEVERTHELESS, WE PROPOSE THAT WE KEEP EACH OTHER INFORMED OF THE RESULTS OF OUR NATIONAL AIRCRAFT MICROWAVE OBSERVATION PROGRAMS BY EXCHANGING REPORTS AND PAPERS WHICH SUMMARIZE THE ANALYSES OF MORE RECENT DATA. WE COULD THEN TAKE A LOOK AT ANY PROPOSALS FOR JOINT ACTIVITIES AT A LATER TIME.

SINCERELY,

DAVID S. JOHNSON, DIRECTOR  
NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL SATELLITE SERVICE  
NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION

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